

Testimony in Support of House Bill 2544

Honorable Members of the Committee,

I stand before you today to express my full support for House Bill 2544, a significant piece of legislation designed to support and appreciate the members of the Kansas Army and Air National Guard. Though I am not a member of the National Guard myself, my collaboration with Representatives Blake Carpenter and Adam Turk, who are both esteemed members of the Air National Guard, has provided me with valuable insights into the challenges and needs of our guardsmen.

House Bill 2544 is a testament to our commitment to those who serve our state and country with honor and dedication. By establishing tax credits for employers who hire members of the Kansas Army and Air National Guard, and for the guardsmen themselves, this bill not only recognizes their service but also actively supports their integration into our workforce. This initiative is crucial for enhancing our state's economic development and creating a supportive environment for our guardsmen.

Moreover, this bill is a strategic step towards improving retention within the National Guard. By providing tangible benefits to both employers and employees, we are encouraging more businesses to hire guardsmen, thereby ensuring that these brave individuals have stable and rewarding civilian careers. This, in turn, helps in maintaining a strong and ready National Guard, essential for our state's security and well-being.

In conclusion, House Bill 2544 is more than just a tax incentive; it is a clear message of our gratitude and commitment to those who serve in the Kansas Army and Air National Guard. I urge my fellow legislators to support this bill, acknowledging the sacrifices and contributions of our guardsmen, and fostering a brighter future for them and our state.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,
Rep. Laura Williams